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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New Hampshire Veterans Home Making Final Preparations for Life Enhancement Dementia Unit

TILTON, NH – January 15, 2004 – The New Hampshire Veterans Home ("NHVH") is making final preparations to its recently completed Life Enhancement Dementia Unit in anticipation of welcoming an additional 100 Residents to the facility. Following the completion of construction in October 2003, NHVH staff members devoted several weeks to arranging furniture deliveries, ordering supplies and relocating offices. In addition to these preparations, NHVH has been actively working with the Department of Veterans Affairs to complete the process of review under the requirements of the State Home Construction Program. The Department of Veterans Affairs has now determined that the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit is in compliance with all VA standards.

On February 2, 2004, NHVH will begin expanding its long-term care services to a total of 250 veterans of the Granite State. Our Admissions Coordinators are continuing to assist veterans and their families and will be contacting them individually over the next few weeks to finalize the transition process.

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About the New Hampshire Veterans Home

The New Hampshire Veterans Home ("NHVH") was initially established in Tilton in 1890 as the Soldier's Home for Civil War Veterans. Today, the modern facility in its countryside setting is home to 150 men and women who have served their country and fellow New Hampshire citizens. The mission of NHVH is to provide high quality, professional long-term care services to the Granite State's elderly and disabled veterans. NHVH is the only long-term care facility in the Granite State that is dedicated exclusively to veterans.

As a professional health care provider, NHVH offers a full range of services including residential, medical/dental and nursing care as well as physical/occupational therapy, recreation, and dietetic and social services. Chapel services, exercise groups, arts and crafts, shopping trips, live entertainment and various community outings support residents' quality of life. NHVH also offers inter-generational programs and animal-assisted recreational therapy.

Dedicated staff members work in partnership with volunteers from surrounding communities and numerous veteran service organizations to enrich our residents' lives. NHVH recently completed construction of a 100-bed Life Enhancement Dementia Unit that will serve the long-term care needs of veterans who suffer from Alzheimer's and other related memory impairment disorders. The facility addition will enable NHVH to provide comprehensive long-term care services to a total of 250 Residents. Construction of the Life Enhancement Dementia Unit began in April 2002. The project is part of the State Home Construction Program of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Under this program, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs contributed \$7,150,000 of the total project cost of \$11,900,000. The State of New Hampshire contributed the remaining \$4,750,000. MorrisSwitzer Environments for Health, Inc. based in Williston, Vermont was the architect for the addition. Harvey Construction Corporation of Bedford, New Hampshire served as the project builder.

Additional information is available online at our website www.nh.gov/veterans